

No 11

A

SERMON

Preached at the Cathedral Church of

HEREFORD,

On *Thursday* October 9, 1746.

Being the Day appointed for a
General Thanksgiving for the Sup-
pression of the LATE REBELLION.

By *WILLIAM LANE*, M. A.
LECTURER of the said CHURCH.

Published at the Request of the Audience.

L O N D O N :

Printed for T. Longman and T. Shewell in
Pater-noster-row, and James Wilde, Book-
seller in Hereford. 1746.



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EZEK. XXXVI. 32.

*Not for your Sakes do I this, saith the
Lord God, be it known unto you: Be
ashamed and confounded for your own
Ways, O House of Israel.*

IN this Chapter we find
the holy Prophet by
God's Command com-
forting his Countrymen
the *Jews*, (who had
long been cruelly har-
rassed by their *Heathen* Neighbours, and
were at that Time Captives in *Babylon*)
with the Promise of a speedy Redemp-
tion from their present Hardships, and a
happy Re-establishment in their own
Country.—But at the same Time He in-

sists upon it, that all the Evils they had
 suffered from their Enemies were nothing
 more than a just Punishment from God
 for their Rebellion against Him, whose
 Subjects in a peculiar Manner they were;
 and that they had not yet so far amend-
 ed their Behaviour towards Him, as in
 any Respect to deserve that Deliverance
 He intended for them. — "*When the
 House of Israel dwelt in their own Land,
 saith God, they defiled it by their own
 Way and by their Doings: — Wherefore
 I poured my Fury upon them — and I scat-
 tered them among the Heathen, and they
 were dispersed through the Countries: —
 According to their Way, and according
 to their Doings I judged them.*" — Nor
 did even the Pressures of their Captivity
 serve to correct, or make them alter their
 Manners; for it follows, "*And when
 they entered unto the Heathen, i. e. were
 carried away Captive, they prophaned my
 holy Name, brought a Scandal upon it
 by their evil Practices, insomuch that it
 was said to them with high Contempt;
 These are the People of the Lord, and
 are gone forth out of his Land.*" — But
 saith

saith God, *I had Pity for my holy Name, which they had thus prophaned among the Heathen; wherefore say unto the House of Israel, thus saith the Lord God —I do not this for your Sakes, O House of Israel, but for my holy Name's Sake, which ye have prophaned among the Heathen, whither ye went.*" It was rather to stop the insolent Reproaches, and repress the Presumption of these idolatrous Heathen; as also to give both *them* and the Jews a convincing Proof of his overruling Providence, and to vindicate the Honour of *his holy Name*, and the Promise *He made to their Fathers*.—It was rather, I say, on *these* Accounts than for any Merit in *his own People* of the *then* present Generation, that God determined to put their Enemies the Heathen, that were about them, to *Shame*, and to bring *them* again into *their own Land*; but upon this Condition *only*, that *they would remember* and forsake *their own evil Ways*, and loathe themselves for their former *abominable Iniquities*. The Observations arising from this Part of the Jewish History will be no improper Subject

ject to employ our Thoughts upon at this Time: And it were well for us, would we all make the same suitable Reflection for *ourselves*, which the inspired Writer recommends to the *Jews*.

That God, the supreme Governor of the World, and Disposer of all Events, does never punish any People without their deserving it, is evident not *only* from the undeniable Perfections of his Nature, from his Justice, Holiness, and Goodness, (without which He would cease to be what He is) but also from Experience, and the Accounts we generally meet with in History with regard to this Point — that He likewise, not only never afflicts without a Cause, but is moreover pleased on some Occasions to spare a Nation even when it most deserves Punishment — tho' this be more than what we have any Right to expect, and is no necessary Consequence from any natural Notions we can have of his Being and Attributes, yet neither is it contrary to them, and is what in Fact hath frequently been the Case. — That it was so with the *Jews* is plain from the Instance in the Text, and from many

many others recorded in the sacred Writings. — And that *our own Case* at present doth in this Respect too much resemble *theirs*; appears from the almost universal Complaint of the general Depravity and Corruption of *these* Times; and the People of *this* Land, who have undoubtedly Cause enough to acknowledge the *undeserved* Goodness of God shewn to them on many Occasions. — We are here now met together to return our unfeigned Thanks to Him for a *Deliverance* from the greatest *Evil* that could possibly befall our Country, — even no less than a total Subversion both of our *civil* and *religious* Liberties, together with all the Havock and Confusion, the Scenes of Blood and Slaughter, of Rapine and Devastation, that must have attended such a Change of Government, as the Abettors of this wicked *Rebellion* were attempting to bring about. And the Design of all *religious Thanksgiving* being not *only* to express our Joy for the immediate Occasion of it, and to offer up our Praises and Acknowledgments to Heaven on *that* Account, but *also*, and *that* chiefly,

chiefly, to affect our Minds with such Sentiments of real Gratitude, of Duty and Piety towards God, and a constant Obedience for the future to his holy Will, as we are indeed always bound to, but which the Exigency of our Affairs does at some Times more particularly require of us, in order to pursue this End, I shall endeavour in the following Discourse to shew,

I. *First*, The many Obligations that we and the whole People of this Land have to be heartily and devoutly thankful to Almighty God for the important Occasion of this Day's Solemnity, which has happily dispelled that *dark Cloud*, those *uneasy* Fears and Apprehensions which before hung upon the Mind of every *true Englishman and Protestant*. And,

II. *Secondly*, How much Reason we have to be *ashamed and confounded for our own Doings*, which had brought us so near the Edge of Destruction, and from which we were rescued, not so much for *our own Sakes*, as for *God's holy Name's Sake*,

Sake, for the Sake of *that* Cause, which of all others in this World most deserves our *Regard*, and which is the most likely of any to secure and continue to us the Interposition of *Providence* in its *De-fence*.

1st. In order to take a due Estimate of our *Deliverance*, we must consider not *only* what the Nation has suffered already by the great Expence of its Blood and Treasure, at a Time when we were otherwise engaged in a necessary War; but *also* how much greater Evils we must have undergone, what a terrible Scene of Confusion must have ensued, had the Rebellion proceeded much further, had it seized the *Metropolis* of the Kingdom, or been at length *fatally* crowned with Success. The past Evils are still so fresh in the Memories of most Men, who have had any Concern for, or Attention to the Welfare of their Country, that there will be the *less* Need to enlarge much upon them. Even those who were least inquisitive as to *Particulars*, must yet know in *general*, or may easily *imagine* to themselves

selves what are the inseparable Attendants on an *intestine* War, of all others the most dreadful both in its *Causes* and *Effects*.

War indeed of *any* Kind has something so horrid and shocking in the very Idea of it, so grating to the common Sentiments of Humanity, and much more to the mild and forbearing Spirit of the Gospel, that many Christians in former Times, not without very plausible Reasons to support their Opinion, have maintained a *State of War* to be in *all* Cases utterly *unlawful*: But this to be sure was going quite too far, and is a Notion which would lead to infinitely greater Evils, than even *those* it intends to guard against. For the Result of such a Doctrine, if strictly adhered to, would be subjecting the *Best* Part of Mankind to the lawless Will of the *Worst*. So that Arguments drawn from the unavoidable Miseries of War can *only* prove it to be unlawful, when it is undertaken, as it too often is, by ambitious Princes, *merely* for the Sake of *Conquest* and *vain Glory*; for enlarging *their own* Dominions, and in-

croaching

croaching on the Liberties of *their Neighbours*: Or indeed for any *other Cause*, but that of a *necessary Self-Defence*, and the *Preservation* of those *Rights* and *Privileges* which each Nation has a proper Claim to.

Great Britain had certainly Cause sufficient to vindicate its Appeal to Heaven for Justice in declaring War against *Spain* for Reasons long felt, and too well known to be here insisted on. Soon after the Commencement of this War, unwillingly entered into, but yet attended with some considerable Success, unhappily for the Repose of *Europe*, the Death of the *late Emperor* kindled a new Flame, and set all Things in fresh Confusion. The *Heir* to his *hereditary Dominions* (to guard whose peaceable *Succession* he had ingaged the most considerable Powers in *Europe*) soon found them lawlessly invaded, and herself destitute of *that* Succour she had just Reason to expect. In this Distress *France*, ever ambitious of extending *her own* Power at any Rate, and giving Law to *other* Countries, instead of composing Differences, or affording *that*

Assistance which she was as strongly bound to, as this or any other Nation could be, perfidiously employed both her Arms and her Councils to defeat the *very End* for which she had plighted her *solemn* Faith. It might perhaps be thought too bold an Undertaking for *one* Power, almost *alone*, to stand up in Defence of *injured* Right and Merit against so formidable an Opposition as was made. But such unjust Proceedings as these could not but rouse the *Spirit* of the *British* Nation, tho' involved in a War with *Spain*, and labouring under the Weight of large publick Debts, to become Parties in the Dispute, not thinking the Difficulties they were *then* under *themselves*, or the Example of *other* States, a sufficient Excuse for not performing, in the most *effectual* Manner, the Promises given to an *old* Ally. Nor could we indeed with any *Honour*, or even *Safety* to ourselves, have tamely submitted to see the established Ballance of Power, and consequently the *Liberties of Europe*, for which our Ancestors had expended so much Blood and Treasure, all violently ravaged and swallowed

lowed up at once without any Prospect of Recovery, and not make *one* Struggle more, *one* generous Effort to preserve them.

It was natural to expect, that our hearty and vigorous Determinations to pursue the Enemies of Peace and Justice, by engaging in this *auxiliary* War, would provoke (as it did) the Resentment of *France*, so far as to produce an open Declaration of Hostilities from thence.

In this Situation of our *publick* Affairs, whilst we were thus vindicating *our own* Rights and Independency, and endeavouring to restore Freedom and Tranquillity to *our Neighbours*, and when the Advantages of War began in some Measure to incline to *our* Side, and to favour our *honest* Purposes, we were all on a Sudden alarmed with the Approach of Dangers at *Home*, and our Attention called off from a more *foreign* Concern to provide for *our own* immediate Safety. Our Enemies *Abroad*, who in the last great War had often experienced to their Cost the Superiority of the *English* Force, and of that *true* Courage which *Justice* and a
Love

Love of Liberty inspires, not caring to trust wholly to their Numbers, or run the Hazard of a fair Engagement, betook themselves to the baser Methods of Conquest, by arming the *Subjects* of this Crown against each other, in order to introduce a *Popish Pretender* to the Throne, who would be more compliant to their Wishes.—The Beginnings of this Attempt were so very *weak* and *despicable*, and the Project *itself* so unlikely to *succeed*, that the Report of it was scarce credited at first by many, even of *those* who heartily wished *well* to the Government: ---- By others, who were more *indifferent*, it was intirely slighted: —But highly ridiculed and exposed, as an extravagant *false* Alarm, by *such* as were supposed most inclinable to *favour* the Design.---When afterwards it too manifestly became a Matter of very serious Concern, and excited the *Hopes* or *Fears* of every Man in the Nation, there was still such a blind Mixture of Accounts, and the Strength and Progress of the Rebels was with different Views so much magnified or diminished, and so many wicked

Lies

Lies were industriously spread about the Kingdom, that it is no Wonder the Hearts of *many* began to fail, and be possessed with the most uneasy Sollicitude for the Event. How far the detestable Spirit of *Rebellion* had reached, what latent Enemies we might have amongst ourselves, made so by *Faction* and *Discontent*; not to mention those who by *Principle* are Enemies to *our Constitution*: In a Word, how many from the *various Motives* of Want, Envy, Ambition, and other restless Passions: How many more from a *stupid* Ignorance and *mere* Infatuation, would have been ready to join in effecting our common Ruin, was impossible to be determined with any Certainty; nor did the *grave* Concern, which some expressed at our impending Fate, make it easy to be distinguished, whether they more *feared* or *wished* for a Change.--- It is to be hoped however for the *Honour* of the Nation, that there were *fewer* Enemies of this Kind than is commonly imagined; and that scarce any, except some known *desperate Leaders* in the more *remote* Parts of the *Kingdom*, followed

lowed by their blind slavish Train of *Dependants*, (equally prepared for any Enterprize of *Plunder*), were determined to pursue so *destructive* a Scheme.---Representations no doubt had been made *Abroad*, and strong Assurances given, that the *English* People in general were uneasy to the last Degree, and ripe for *Rebellion*,---that they were full of *Grievances* and *Complaints*, and wanted only a fit Opportunity to shake off their *Chains*. And indeed such scandalous Reflections were openly cast upon the *publick* Administration, such Liberties taken both in *Speech* and *Writing*, (not to be paralleled in former Ages or other Countries) that a *Stranger* might well conclude there was too much Truth in the Representation. — But when the Trial came to be made, and the Danger of a Change drew near, it soon appeared, to the Comfort of all *honest* Men, that the *best*, the most *knowing*, and most *considerable* Part of the Nation were zealous to declare their Abhorrence of *so foul* a Design, and joined as *one Man* to defeat it. Their Labours, their Fortunes, and even their Lives,

were

were gladly devoted to his *Majesty's* Service, and the *only* Contention among them seemed to be, who should be most forward in hazarding every Thing for so good a Cause; on the Support of which indeed depended the *Preservation* of all that could be dear and valuable to them. The *real* Merit of these *true* Patriots, who distinguished themselves most on this important Occasion, must ever be remembered with due Praise and Gratitude, whilst the *pretended Patriotism* and *false Zeal* of others, who for many Years before had been labouring to distress, and bring an Odium upon the Government, to poison the Minds of their Fellow-Subjects, and possess them with *groundless* Fears and Jealousies of unknown Dangers at *Home*, (without which I suppose there would have been no Thought of an Invasion from *Abroad*)—will either be forgot, or treated with that Abhorrence and Infamy they deserve.—I shall not, as indeed I cannot, pretend to heighten the much greater Infamy and Guilt of *those*, who not content with expressing their

Dissatisfaction in *mere Words*, in *bold Ca-*
lumnies and *Invectives*, — (Crimes *black*
 enough of *themselves* in the Scripture
 Account) proceeded even to employ their
earnest Endeavours to overturn our happy
 Constitution and Government, rather than
 not bear a Part *themselves* in the *Dir-*
ection of it; to depose and murder their
 lawful *Sovereign*, to extirpate his *whole*
 Race, and in the End, subject their Coun-
 try to a *foreign* Yoke. The Guilt of *such*,
 (whoever they were) who, tho' not in
 Person, yet by their Councils, their Mo-
 ney, their Interest, or by any *other* Means
 gave Encouragement and Assistance to
them, who actually took up Arms for
that Purpose, is beyond Aggravation. —
They are strictly chargeable with all the
evil Consequences which *did*, and the
 much *worse* which *might* have ensued from
 such a desperate Conduct, with all the Bar-
 barities, Plunder, and Devastation com-
 mitted in several Towns and Countries,
 the lamentable Distresses thereby brought
 on private Persons and Families, and what
 is most to be considered in this Case, they
 are

are chargeable with the *Murder* (for it can be called no *otherwise*) of every *loyal* Subject, who fell in *Defence* of his Country. The Ruin of *their own* Friends too, and the necessary Exercise of those Severities, which every Government has a Right, and is obliged to make use of for its own Security; the Death of those unhappy *Rebels*, who were either cut off in the *Field of Battle*, or reserved for a more *just* and *proper* Fate, must all be charged to the *same* Account. *These* then are the *Evils* (besides others of a yet more *publick* Nature, such as the Interruption of *Trade* and *Commerce*, &c.) which *did* happen, enough one would think to excite a deep and bitter Remorse in the Authors of them.

But how much more extensive must our Calamity *have been*, and what a numberless Train of Miseries *must* have followed, had the *Rebel* Army made a further Progress, had they been more powerfully supplied at *Home*, and from *Abroad*, than it appeared they were, and been enabled, for a Punishment of our Sins, to

make this fruitful and once happy Country, one Scene of Desolation and a Field of Blood ! The Contest, while it lasted, must have been exceeding sharp and cruel on both Sides, and it was absurd to expect that a Change could have been brought about in a very short Time.—A King of *Great Britain*, supported by his *Parliament*, (with the great Strength of the Nation at his Command) and who by the Justice and Clemency of his Reign had never given any *real* Occasion for Tumult and Disquiet, is not so easily to be deposed as some rash and inconsiderate People may imagine ; and tho' in a *former* Reign, when our *Rights* and *Privileges* were arbitrarily invaded, a *Revolution* formed for the Recovery of them was so effectually and so speedily brought about, yet it is reasonably to be presumed, that a Project calculated for quite *contrary* Purposes, for the *intire* Destruction of these invaluable Blessings, could never *finally* succeed, whilst the *same* Zeal for our Religion and Liberties as *then* exerted itself, is *still* alive among us.

But

But supposing, as the Events of War are always uncertain, that our Enemies had so far prevailed as to get the Possession of Power for *the present* into their Hands, yet this could never have lasted long without frequent and continual Interruptions, whilst there was any one *Protestant* Branch of the *Royal Family* remaining to assert and vindicate its *Rights*, and which could not fail of being supported by *other States*, who, if not from a Principle of *Justice*, and a Sense of *Gratitude* for Benefits received, yet for *their own Sakes*, and to reduce the dangerous and over-bearing Power of *that Tyrant*, (whose *Tributaries* we must *then* have been) would have been willing to give a proper Assistance. — In the mean Time, and till Things were re-settled, (besides all the *Evils* already mentioned, of Neighbours, Friends, Brethren, all at fatal Variance, and sheathing their Swords in each others Bowels) what a terrible Confusion of Property, of which so considerable a Part depends intirely upon the *Support* and *Continuance* of the *present* Govern-

Government, must have been the Consequence? And who is there among us, that could have had *any* Security of his Possessions, when so many *Forfeitures*, under various Pretences, too tedious here to mention, might have been claimed, in order to satisfy a numerous indigent Train of Followers, whose long Services, Labours, and Hazards for the Cause, in which they had listed themselves, would have been pleaded as a sufficient Title to the *highest* Rewards? — But I forbear to dwell any longer on so disagreeable and horrid a Subject.— We have all of us, even our Enemies *themselves* if they considered rightly, great Reason to rejoice that a timely Stop was put to civil Rage and Fury,---that no further Ravages and Oppressions were committed in the Land,—and that neither *they*, nor *we* have had more Friends, Countrymen, or Kindred to deplore the *Loss* or *Ruin* of,—that all our Interest and Properties are still safe and secure to us under the mild and gracious Government of a *King*, who till the *late* unhappy Necessity drove him to it,

it, never stained the Felicity of his Reign with the Blood of any *State Criminal*; who can never to this Day be charged with any *one* arbitrary illegal Act, and who, from all that appears, has the true Welfare and Glory of his People as much at Heart, as the most passionate Lover of his Country can desire.

It is no small Addition to our Joy on this grateful Occasion, that we can boast of a *Prince*, who with the true Spirit of his *Ancestors*, long famed for undaunted Resolution and Conduct, gave *Life* and *Vigour* to our Troops, and became the *glorious* Instrument, in the Hand of *Providence*, to bring about *the great Deliverance*, which we this Day commemorate. —How much was owing to the Courage and Bravery of our Troops, animated by so *noble* an Example, is well known to every Body.

2dly, How much we owe to *Providence*, and what *Returns* we are bound to make for the *undeserved* Blessing, is our present Business to consider. — *Not for*
your

your Sakes do I this, saith the Lord God, be it known unto you; be asbamed and confounded for your own Ways, O House of Israel.

Had God permitted the *Sword* of his Wrath to have passed *quite thro'* the Land, and made us the miserable Instruments of *our own mutual* Destruction, we should with *Shame and Confusion* to ourselves have been obliged to acknowledge the *Justice* of his Vengeance;— that he had *dealt with us after our Sins, and rewarded us according to our Wickedness.*

I would not willingly interrupt the *Rejoicings* of *this Day*, by bringing any *melancholy* Considerations to our Minds;—but it is too evident, and cannot be dissembled, that our *Principles* and *Manners* have been greatly sunk and degenerate;—that the main Duties of *Religion*, the best Band of Society, have been strangely neglected.—Hence spring *public*, as well as *private* Mischiefs and Disturbances.—Ambition, Avarice, Luxury, and a bare-faced Corruption, have spread themselves among *all* Parties and Denominations

minations of Men. A *prophane* Con-
 tempt of Things *sacred* has too gene-
 rally prevailed; and the *fundamental*
 Doctrines of our holy *Faith* have been
 openly exposed and ridiculed. — Even
Natural Religion itself, and the common
 Notions of *Morality*, have not escaped
 the Attack of *shameless* Wits. — What
 will be the End thereof, God only knows!
 — By many extraordinary Providences
 hath *He*, in former Times, been pleased
 to preserve this *Church* and *Nation* from
 the pernicious Designs of *open* and *secret*
 Enemies to our *Liberties*, and the *Re-*
formation — We have cryed to *Him* in
 our *Trouble*, and *He* has delivered us
 from our *Distress*; but when the Evil
 was removed, how constantly almost hath
 his kindly Interposition been overlooked
 and forgot, and little Improvement made
 by the *awakening* Call to *Repentance*? —
 He has lately heard the devout Prayers
 of *some*, and saved *others* against their
 Will. — What Effect this merciful Dispens-
 ation will have upon *both*, Time must
 discover. — It surely becomes every one

D

of

of us seriously to look into *his own* Breast, and to purge out the *Corruption* of it; without which even the Matter of our present Joy will avail us little; and we must *sooner or later* feel the inevitable Stroke of the *Divine* Anger.—We have had abundant Warnings both by *Judgments* and *Mercies*; and it nearly concerns us to make a right Use of them. Wherefore now that we are rescued from so great and imminent Danger, let us take Care not to provoke God any more by our Impiety and gross Immoralities. Let us also gratefully acknowledge the *Blessings* He has so liberally held out to us. Let us learn to set a higher Value, than we have hitherto done, on the *religious* Advantages we enjoy in having the *pure Light of the Gospel* among us; but above all, let us endeavour to recommend and adorn our *Profession* by a suitable *Practice*.—Let us make ourselves thoroughly acquainted with the true Grounds of our Departure from the *Romish* Communion, that so we may be the less liable to be imposed upon by the
Artifice

Artifice of those, who *lie in Wait to deceive*, and make it their Business to disguise the *real* Depravities of *that* Church, which, wherever it is firmly established, not *only* abounds with a Multitude of *idle* and *ridiculous* Superstitions, but *also* with the most *inhumane* and *shocking* Cruelties. And tho' in *Protestant* Countries it may affect to wear a more *mild* and *favourable* Aspect; and the Professors of it (among whom no Doubt there are many good and valuable Persons in *other* Respects) may be the most civil and inoffensive in their Behaviour; yet it would be *Madness* in this Nation to trust to *these* Appearances, having more than once found, by *fatal* Experience, that *their tender Mercies* are *cruel*.—

We are now at full Liberty with the Gospel and all other Helps lying before us to judge for ourselves, to search after Truth, and to profess *that* Religion which our own Consciences most approve of. May *this* Privilege, (for which we cannot be too much concerned) never be lost,

lost, nor abused and turned into Licentiousness !

Let us set a just Value too on our *civil*, as well as our *religious* Liberties, on that happy Constitution of Government, by which our *Persons* and *Estates* are so securely guarded, that as far as *human* Means can provide, the very *meanest* is under no Fear of Violence and Oppression from the *greatest*, and no Man is liable to any other outward Restraint, than what the *known* Laws of his Country subject him to.— These several Advantages we have many Years enjoyed beyond most other Nations upon Earth.— Let not the long and uninterrupted Possession of them make them appear the less valuable in themselves, or abate our thankful *Regard* for them.— Much more, let not an ill-grounded Suspicion of Designs to rob us of this Blessing make us at any Time hereafter fly, as some have lately done, for Refuge to *that* which must prove the *certain* Ruin of it, and throw ourselves headlong into *the Arms* of *arbitrary Power*, under Pretence of *running* from it.

it.—It has been the constant Policy of our known Enemies to encourage every Jealousy of this Kind, in order to put us off our Guard, and divert our Attention from *real* to *imaginary* Dangers. The Fears of *Popery*, the *Pretender*, and an *Invasion*, have been long accustomed to be treated as *mere Notions*, calculated to serve *other* Purposes than what were fit to be *openly* avowed. One good Effect at *least* may reasonably be expected from the *late* dangerous Attempt, as it has turned out, that it will help to open the Eyes of *many*, who were before blinded with Prejudices industriously promoted and infused into their Minds, and convince them at length of the Reality of *that*, which they were impudently taught to disbelieve and despise. Hard indeed, on this Account, has been the Lot of those who have had the weighty Care of the *Publick* committed to their Charge! for if they left the Nation *unguarded* against any *sudden* Attack, they were false to *themselves* and *their* Trust, and would really deserve the Resentment of the *People*.—On the other hand,

hand, if they kept up the *necessary* Means of *Defence*, always ready and prepared, they must undergo the severe Imputation of being *Instruments of Tyranny*, and *Betrayers* of the *Liberties* of their Country.—Let our *late* Experience then, if nothing else will, satisfy us of the *Falsbood* and *evil Tendency* of such Suggestions, and make us *all* unite more heartily for the future in whatever really contributes to the *publick* Good.—If laying aside all *groundless* Jealousies and Discontents, we would each of us apply ourselves to the Duties of our respective Stations, and, according to the Apostle's Rules, *study to be quiet, and do our own Business*, — *fear God, and honour the King*, we might once more hope to become a *flourishing* and *happy* People.—And tho' to use the Words of the Prophet, *the Enemy hath said against us, Ahab! even the ancient high Places are ours in Possession*, and tho' in their own *Imaginations* they had *already swallowed us up on every Side*, and with *despiteful Minds*, and the *Joy* of their *whole Hearts*, they had marked

us out for certain *Slavery* and *Ruin*; yet as *God*, by prospering the Arms of our *Sovereign*, in suppressing the *Rebellion at Home*, has in a great Measure defeated their *wicked Designs*, not *only* upon *ourselves*, but *our Allies Abroad*; so we trust, and may have good Grounds to expect (if our *Sins* do not prevent it) that *He* will yet further assist and enable us effectually to humble the Ambition of *such* as *injuriously delight* in War, and in his own good Time restore to *us*, and the Nations *around us*, the general Blessing of a *safe and honourable Peace*.

F I N I S.



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F. V. 1. 2.